



OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL

# THE GATED WYE

## JANUARY 2025



## HISTORIC 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 was a year of resilience and progress for the Oregon State Fire Marshal and the Oregon fire service. From tackling historic wildfires to strengthening community safety, the OSFM made strides in innovation, collaboration, and preparedness.

Discover how Oregon's fire service rose to meet unprecedented challenges and laid the foundation for a stronger, safer future. **[READ MORE ON PG. 2](#)**

OSFM'S MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER

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# OSFM: A YEAR OF RESILIENCE AND PROGRESS IN 2024

With 2024 behind us, the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) reflects on a transformative year marked by resilience, innovation, and collaboration. From responding to an historic wildfire season to advancing community safety, the department laid the groundwork for a safer and more prepared Oregon.

## **RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES WITH UNWAVERING COMMITMENT**

Last year began with a winter storm that tested Oregon's fire service across the state. From Corvallis to the Columbia River Gorge, firefighters responded heroically to freezing conditions, logging hundreds of calls in a single day. Their dedication showcased the tenacity and strength of Oregon's first responders.

As the summer approached, wildfire season brought unprecedented challenges. With 17 conflagrations, the OSFM mobilized nearly 90 task forces, coordinating efforts with local, state, and federal partners. Resources were boosted by the 2024 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant and the OSFM Engine Program, enabling local agencies to send more personnel and equipment than ever before. Marion County, for example, deployed four task forces simultaneously, preventing substantial property loss and demonstrating the program's impact.



## **BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE FUTURE**

The OSFM's Engine Program, funded by Senate Bill 762, reached significant milestones in 2024. More than 85% of the 76 firefighting apparatus, including types 3 and 6 engines and tactical tenders, were delivered to local agencies. Ceremonies like Gearhart Volunteer Fire Department's tender handover highlighted a renewed commitment to modernizing Oregon's firefighting capabilities.

The 2024 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant provided critical funding for 191 local agencies, ensuring rapid and effective response to fires. From the Spring Creek Fire to the Miller Fire, these added resources played a pivotal role in minimizing damage and protecting lives.

## **EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION**

Prevention and community education remained cornerstones of the OSFM's mission. Programs like the cooking fire safety and the defensible space incentive directly addressed leading causes of home fires and wildfire risks. Last year, 2,103 defensible space assessments were conducted, encouraging proactive measures to protect homes and communities. The Community Wildfire Risk Reduction unit supported over \$25 million in grant projects and provided wildfire education and training.

The agency also engaged thousands of Oregonians through events like the Oregon State Fair, the Oregon Ag Fest, where interactive displays and educational resources highlighted fire and wildfire prevention strategies. Collaborations with partners like the Legacy Emanuel Burn Center, Oregon Health Authority, and National Fire Protection Association expanded outreach efforts and emphasized safety for vulnerable populations.

## **ENHANCING TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Investing in the fire service's future, the OSFM hosted pivotal training programs in 2024. Hazmat teams completed rigorous 160-hour courses, and the Community Wildfire Mitigation Best Practices course prepared practitioners statewide for wildfire risk reduction. These efforts show the OSFM's dedication to equipping personnel with cutting-edge knowledge and skills.







## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

As Oregon transitions into 2025, the OSFM remains steadfast in its commitment to safety and innovation. Priorities include completing Engine Program deliveries, sustaining wildfire staffing grants, and expanding community-based prevention initiatives. The agency will work on implementing the new NERIS+ reporting system to streamline data collection and enhance incident analysis. In 2024, the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) convened. The agency is committed to building partnerships as the state improves response to hazardous material incidents.

The OSFM's vision for 2025 is clear: building on the successes of 2024 to create a more resilient, prepared, and connected Oregon. Important to this effort is the Convening of the Fire Service, which addresses resource challenges and fosters collaboration to enhance the state's firefighting capacity. Together with its partners and communities, the OSFM will continue to lead efforts to protect lives, property, and the environment.

As we look back on a remarkable year, we thank the firefighters, staff, and partners who have made these achievements possible. Your courage and dedication inspire us all to move forward with purpose and determination. Here's to a safer, stronger 2025!

# OSFM: A YEAR OF RESILIENCE AND PROGRESS IN 2024





# LEGISLATURE APPROVES 2024 WILDFIRE FUNDING

Last month, the state capitol witnessed a historic moment: a special legislative session dedicated solely to wildfire funding. This focus in December highlights the critical need to ensure that the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and the Oregon Department of Forestry are fully equipped for the challenges of the 2025 fire season.

## Takeaways from the Session

- *Recognition of Excellence:* The OSFM team and the Oregon fire service has been instrumental in protecting communities across Oregon, earning widespread appreciation.
- *Financial Accountability:* It's essential to settle outstanding costs for wildland and structural firefighters, as well as other response partners.
- *Systemic Funding Issues:* The current wildfire funding model is inadequate. Sustainable solutions are urgently needed to support community adaptation, landscape resiliency, and fire suppression.

By the end of the session, the legislature approved funds to cover the remaining costs of the 2024 wildfire season. This decision ensures that Oregon State Fire Marshal is reimbursed for advancing these costs on behalf of the fire service, restoring the agency's financial standing.

Throughout the week of the session, the state fire marshal, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Governor's Office presented updates on wildfire funding initiatives and preparations for the 2025 fire season. These presentations were well-received by legislators, who expressed deep gratitude for the fire service's exceptional efforts during what was a record-breaking wildfire season.

This special session underscores a growing recognition among legislators of the need for a sustainable and reliable funding framework to address Oregon's escalating wildfire challenges. Efforts to secure durable resources for community resilience and wildfire response will remain a top priority.

If you would like to watch the special session or any related presentations, visit the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) website. As we kick off the new year, I wish you and your families a happy and prosperous 2024. Thank you for all that you do.



# UPDATED WILDFIRE HAZARD MAP RELEASED

The Oregon Department of Forestry, in partnership with Oregon State University, is releasing the updated Oregon Wildfire Hazard Maps on Tuesday, January 7.

These maps are an important resource for understanding wildfire risk and will be accompanied by detailed communication. Each property identified as high-risk will receive a letter outlining their risk level, FAQs, and contact information. This letter will provide instructions and resources for addressing concerns or taking action based on specific wildfire hazard classification.

Homeowners, property owners, and renters may have questions about the maps or their property classification. Please direct people to the information provided in the letter or to visit the [wildfire hazard map website](#) for further details.

For questions about the Oregon Defensible Space Code or any defensible space-related matters, please visit [oregondefensiblespace.org](http://oregondefensiblespace.org). For questions about the work of partner agencies, including the Building Codes Division, visit [preventwildfires.oregon.gov](http://preventwildfires.oregon.gov).

## 8 TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME HEATED SAFELY THIS WINTER

With the winter months upon us, many are turning up thermostats and looking to home heating options. The Oregon State Fire Marshal offers the following tips to avoid sparking an unintended fire.

- Use heating equipment with the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Keep things that can burn, such as paper, curtains, bedding, or furniture, at least three feet away from all heating equipment, including fireplaces, wood stoves, and pellet stoves.
- Use newer, portable space heaters with an automatic shut-off so they will turn off if they're tipped over. Clean them each year before using and check for product recalls.
- Unplug portable space heaters when not in use, before going to bed, or when leaving the room.
- Make sure fuel-burning heaters are designed for indoor use and are properly ventilated.
- With wood stoves and fireplaces, burn only dry, seasoned wood. In pellet stoves, burn only dry, seasoned pellets.







# COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION WEEK APPROACHING

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Week 2025 starts on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 20, 2025, the National Day of Service. This week is an opportunity to share what our agency is doing to enhance community safety and how your agency can get involved.

Each day of the week highlights a unique aspect of CRR and provides a framework for engagement. Here's a helpful guide from Vision 20/20 of ways you can educate your community throughout the week:

## **MONDAY - EDUCATION**

Start the week with action by visiting homes in your community to install smoke alarms. This aligns with the spirit of Martin Luther King Day and reinforces our commitment to public safety through education and outreach.

## **TUESDAY - ENGINEERING**

Explore the critical role of building design and fire protection systems. Firefighters or education staff can visit the community to learn how these systems protect buildings, enhance firefighter safety, and reduce risk for everyone.

## **WEDNESDAY - ENFORCEMENT**

Join fire inspectors to see how safety inspections improve community resilience. These activities demonstrate how enforcement benefits the fire department, property owners, and the community.

## **THURSDAY - ECONOMIC INCENTIVE**

Partner with local businesses to provide life safety devices like smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, car seats, or bicycle helmets. These partnerships make a tangible difference and encourage community collaboration.

## **FRIDAY - EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Share insights into your agency's emergency response data. Discuss common emergencies, response times, and areas for improvement. This is a great day to engage personnel and the public in understanding and enhancing emergency services.

CRR Week is a time to unite, educate, and act. Join us in making our communities safer—one day, one initiative at a time.

Do you have a community risk reduction success story or photos for our agency to share? Please email them to us at [osfm.publicaffairs@osfm.oregon.gov](mailto:osfm.publicaffairs@osfm.oregon.gov).

Visit our [CRR Week webpage](#) for resources to support your agency's community risk reduction efforts. Let's work together to create a safer Oregon. Does your agency need brochures or educational materials to help during CRR week and throughout the year? See what the [OSFM offers here](#).



# JANUARY MARKS FIREFIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH NATIONALLY



At the 2024 IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial, 63% of the names added to the wall were members who died from occupational cancer.

In partnership with the Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN), the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) has designated January as Fire Fighter Cancer Awareness Month to provide firefighters the necessary tools and guidance to develop life-saving protocols for cancer prevention and to support those with a cancer diagnosis within their departments.

The IAFF has a webpage to learn about cancer and the fire service. Each week, the campaign covers a theme with topics covering best practices for reducing cancer risk during fireground activities in the station and in personal life. These include immediate calls to action, emphasizing the prevention or reduction of exposure to carcinogens and the promotion of a healthy lifestyle.

Learn more [about the campaign](#) here.

## CR2K REPORTING OPENS FOR 2025

Did you know you have a right to know? The Oregon Community Right to Know and Protection Act (ORS 453.307-414) requires Oregon employers to report their hazardous substances to the Oregon State Fire Marshal including where they are stored and their hazards. The department's Community Right to Know (CR2K) program tracks and maintains these records.

Information is then provided to emergency planners, first responders, health professionals, and the public so measures can be taken to protect Oregon citizens, their property, and the environment from the risks associated with these substances.

Each year, Oregon employers are required to report their hazardous substances to the OSFM. On January 1, 2025, the OSFM's online portal for hazardous substance reporting, CHS manager, opened to submit 2024 annual reports.

The Community Right to Know and Protection Act, passed in 1985, exceeded the EPA's Emergency Planned and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) requirements.

In Oregon, a hazardous substance is any substance required to have a Safety Data Sheet (SDS), any hazardous waste substance as defined by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), or any substance that presents a physical or health hazard to employees, first responders, or the public. [Learn more here.](#)



# GUIDANCE FOR TEMPORARY SHELTERS

As colder months set in, many cities and organizations across the state will begin to open temporary warming shelters to provide safety and protection for vulnerable populations during harsh weather conditions. The Oregon State Fire Marshal reminds local fire professionals and community leaders that [Technical Advisory \(TA\) 22-12: Temporary Shelters](#) offers updated guidance for repurposing commercial or vacant buildings to serve as temporary sleeping spaces while ensuring fire and life safety.

The intent of TA 22-12 is to assist communities in approving existing buildings not originally designed for sleeping purposes to temporarily house occupants safely. The advisory emphasizes that these shelters should operate for no more than 90 days within a 12-month period, although this timeframe may be extended slightly during prolonged periods of extreme weather. The number of people that may safely occupy the facility is determined by factors such as the building's layout, exit capacity, and safety features. A minimum of two unobstructed exits is required on each floor, and egress pathways must always remain clear.

Fire protection measures are critical to ensuring occupant safety. Smoke alarms are mandatory and carbon monoxide alarms are required when a source is present. Both may be battery-operated if hardwired systems are unavailable. Automatic fire sprinklers, while not always required, can provide flexibility by allowing occupants to sleep on floors above the second floor or in basements, which is otherwise restricted. An emergency evacuation plan must be in place and a fire watch is required during sleeping hours to monitor conditions and address any fire hazards.

TA 22-12 also emphasizes collaboration between shelter operators and local fire officials to address open flames, smoking, fire extinguishers, and inspections before occupancy to identify and mitigate hazards. While the intent of these guidelines is to meet immediate shelter needs during inclement weather, it is critical to prioritize occupant safety through adherence to fire codes and proper planning. The OSFM appreciates the efforts of communities to provide safe shelter during the winter season and encourages operators to reach out to their local fire marshal for guidance or support.



# LET'S HONOR THE OREGON FIRE SERVICE



Oregon will celebrate the Oregon Fire Service on Fire Service Appreciation Day this month!

In 2007, the Oregon Legislature passed House Joint Resolution 25. The measure designated every January 27 as Fire Service Appreciation Day in Oregon.

Fire Service Appreciation Day annually provides the opportunity to honor the men and women who unselfishly serve their communities and who strive to maintain the highest level of skill and professionalism.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal wants to thank all of you for your dedication, compassion, professionalism, and personal sacrifice to help keep all Oregonians safe where they live, work, recreate, seek medical care, and go to school.

## IT'S TIME TO NOMINATE FOR THE OSFM SPARKY AWARDS!

The Oregon State Fire Marshal is accepting nominations for the 2025 Golden and Silver Sparky Awards.

The Golden Sparky recognizes a fire service member or fire agency for outstanding fire prevention or public safety education achievement. The Silver Sparky recognizes a civilian or civilian agency for outstanding achievement in fire prevention or public safety education.

Nominations are open until April 1. Please submit your completed Sparky nomination form with an explanation and examples of your nominee's achievements.

To nominate someone, fill out and submit the form on the [OSFM's website](#).





## PIONEERING PROGRESS: WOMEN AND DIVERSITY IN FIRE SERVICE

Last summer, fire service leaders from all corners of the state gathered at the Oregon State Fire Marshal's headquarters in Salem to discuss the most pressing issues facing our industry. The robust two-day discussion included many important topics.

Two paths exist for solutions to these issues: one is legislative, and the other we can work together to accomplish now. The Oregon State Fire Marshal is starting these important conversations and working towards creating solutions. This year, the OSFM will roll out various webinars and opportunities to discuss how to tackle workforce issues.

To begin the conversation, State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple sat down with Chief Amy Hanifan of McMinnville Fire District last month to talk about her career, the important work she's doing, and how we can work together to provide resources to local fire agencies.

### **CHIEF AMY HANIFAN, A LEADER FOR WOMEN IN THE FIRE SERVICE**

Chief Hanifan has been involved in the fire service most of her life. It was a few ride-alongs in high school where she fell in love with the fire service. Hanifan became a student intern and volunteer before being hired as a firefighter paramedic at McMinnville Fire Department in 2006. She was the first woman hired in a full-time operations role at McMinnville today the department staff are 15-20% women.

A leadership role was not a path Hanifan saw herself going down.

"I never saw myself as a company officer because there was no one to help me visualize myself in that position," Hanifan said.

Over the years, she became a champion for women in the fire service not only locally but at the international level. Hanifan serves on several boards, notably as the past president for Women in Fire. This international organization promotes female leadership and participation in fire and emergency services with members in 48 states and 11 countries, including male firefighters and institutional supporters



Through Women in Fire, Amy enhanced resources for reproductive health. She said that even as little as five to six years ago, these resources didn't exist, so she rolled up her sleeves to cocreate a one-page reproductive health infographic for women and what it means to be pregnant in the fire service. This expanded to reproductive health services for both women and men.

Amy also works with the U.S. Fire Administration on different topics, including cancer in women. In the past this topic was predominantly discussed for men until more recently when emerging research was published. Since then, the conversation has taken off and it's become important for fire agencies around the nation. Hanifan is working with other leaders to bring the USFA's one voice initiative to Oregon.

In Oregon, Hanifan serves as the second vice president for the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, is on their diversity, equity, and inclusion committee, and chairs the OFCA EMS Section. Through her work with the association, she is helping local departments include these concepts as core parts of their recruitment and retention, being cognizant of meeting agencies where they are. This work is focused on building a positive culture and making the fire service accessible to everyone. The OFCA is developing a helpful best practices toolkit that will be available at their annual conference later this year. Stay tuned for more details.

EMS is another focus in her work, and she recently joined an EMS subcommittee for the USFA. She recognizes there has been a substantial shift in how society uses EMS and the healthcare system and how it has or hasn't made itself available for people.

"Private or public, everyone is struggling to be able to provide services on the limited funding they can recoup," Hanifan said.

Changes are coming to Oregon with the legislature passing the EMS Modernization Act of 2024 ([HB 4081](#)), a policy framework more than twenty years in the making. This will begin to address inefficiencies in Oregon's emergency medical system after years of ranking near the bottom in national surveys.

Chief Hanifan is an invaluable resource to the Oregon fire service and continues to champion for women and all fire service members.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The OSFM will share more information about the OFCA DEI toolkit when it is developed. It will be a great resource for local fire agencies for recruitment and retention.

The OSFM will share information on the upcoming workforce webinars. This platform is intended to draw our partners into the discussion and help think of solutions. The agency wants to include people with various skillsets as it begins to look at recruitment differently. The fire service should reflect our diverse communities, and this will be an asset to everyone.

The OSFM plans to host a Convening of the Fire Service every other year to continue to work together to achieve our common goals.

**SIGN UP  
OPENS SOON**



# TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

## RISK-BASED RESPONSE TO BATTERY EMERGENCIES

Back by popular demand, the Oregon State Fire Marshal is excited to offer training on **risk-based response to battery emergencies**.

This 8-hour course includes classroom and hands-on training to prepare responders to conduct risk-based response to battery emergencies for multiple types of batteries including lithium-ion (Li-Ion). The course covers batteries found in transportation, including passenger vehicles, ground transport, air and sea shipping, as well as residential, commercial, and industrial settings.

The cost for the class, travel, lodging and per-diem will be paid for through the HMEP Grant. The class is open to all emergency responders with an emphasis given to firefighters. It is recommended that all participants be trained to the HAZMAT Operations level or higher before the class.

These classes are provided through a partnership with the hosting agencies. Classes are limited to 30.

Registration will open on **January 2, 2025**.

**Sign-up will close on February 13, 2025, at 5 p.m.**

### FEBRUARY 20, 2025

**Medford Fire Sta. #14**  
2208 Table Rock Rd  
Medford, OR 97504

### FEBRUARY 22, 2025

**Banks Fire District**  
13430 NW Main St  
Banks, OR 97106

### FEBRUARY 21, 2025

**Coburg Fire District**  
91232 N Coburg Rd  
Coburg, OR 97408

*Questions about this and other trainings offered by the Oregon State Fire Marshal please contact:*

**Training Specialist Rick Heuchert**  
[richard.heuchert@osfm.oregon.gov](mailto:richard.heuchert@osfm.oregon.gov)  
503-983-3860



**REGISTER NOW**

**CLICK REGISTER NOW OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER.**



# State Emergency Response Commission Executive Committee

## OREGON SERC MEETS IN NOVEMBER

The Oregon State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) recently convened in November to advance the state's hazardous materials emergency planning initiatives. A big focus of the meeting was re-establishing active local emergency planning committees (LEPCs), which play a critical role in community preparedness for hazardous materials. Oregon's leadership in this area is supported by the Oregon Community Right-to-Know program which requires transparent reporting of hazardous materials to enhance public safety and response capabilities.

During the meeting, members discussed a range of topics, including reviewing emergency response plans, setting funding priorities, and encouraging collaboration among state, tribal, and local agencies. A new working group will prioritize data-driven outreach to support at-risk communities, particularly in counties with inactive LEPCs, and assist in crafting emergency plans tailored to local needs. Attendees also emphasized the importance of incorporating vulnerable populations and accessibility considerations into all planning efforts.

Looking ahead, the SERC committee will focus on LEPC emergency response plans, increasing LEPC engagement, and allocating grant funds to support training and exercises at the local level. The next major milestone is the biennial LEPC conference, which is now the SERC/LEPC conference, on May 19-22, 2025, in Lincoln City, which will include training sessions, workshops, and a tabletop exercise to enhance readiness across the state.

## WELCOME, HEATHER WILLS

Heather Wills joins the OSFM as a program assistant in the Regulatory Services Division. For more than five years, she worked as an office administrator and supervisor for area businesses. She was also as a recruiting manager and administrative specialist for Lake Oswego and Salem, assisting with staff development and special projects. Heather lives in Albany, close to her family. Some of her favorite activities include gardening, camping, hunting, road trips, spending time with her grown children and their families, and enjoying time with her 18-month-old grandson.



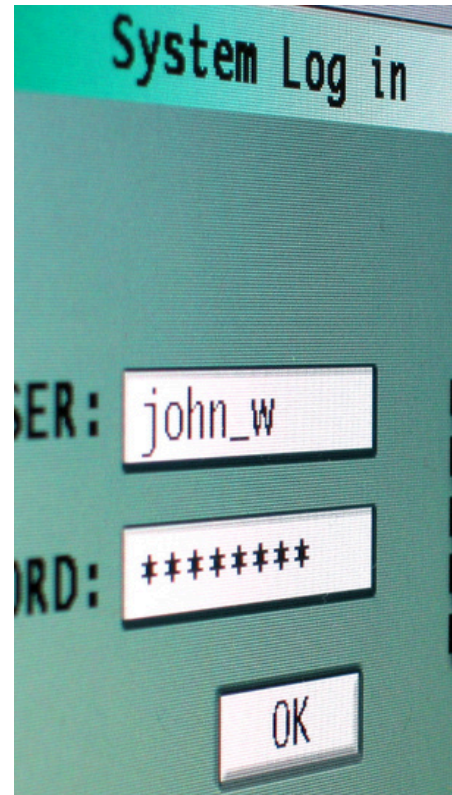
# MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION: CRITICAL STEP FOR PREPAREDNESS

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) is now a requirement for accessing the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) ArcGIS online platform. Generic logins are no longer permitted, and all users of Oregon State Fire Marshal surveys must have their individual accounts and multi-factor authentication configured before the 2025 fire season begins.

Recent after-action reviews have highlighted delays caused by users being unprepared to access triage programs due to incomplete multi-factor authentication setups. To avoid similar issues, it is crucial that all users complete their multi-factor authentication setup now.

Multi-factor authentication enhances security by requiring two verification steps, protecting sensitive information and improving overall system reliability. Users must download the Microsoft Authenticator app to their mobile devices and follow a straightforward setup process.

For detailed guidance, refer to the [multi-factor authentication training document](#). Don't wait—ensure your access is ready before the next emergency response.



# ENGINE PROGRAM UPDATE ALL TENDERS DELIVERED



The Oregon State Fire Marshal's Engine Program has delivered more than 85% of its firefighting apparatus to host agencies across the state, including all tactical water tenders. Funded by Senate Bill 762, this initiative equips local agencies with state-of-the-art Type 3 and Type 6 engines and water tenders, enhancing their ability to combat wildfires and other emergencies.

To support the program's long-term success, the OSFM reestablished the Engine Program Advisory Group. This panel is focused on developing guidelines, tools, and best practices to help agencies maximize the utility and maintenance of their new equipment.

The OSFM Engine Program exemplifies the power of strategic investments in public safety. With the majority of apparatus now in service, Oregon's fire service is better equipped than ever.





# CODES CORNER

## PROCESSING AND EXTRACTION FACILITIES

In 2019, Chapter 39 Processing and Extraction Facilities was added to the Oregon Fire Code to address the rapidly expanding hemp and marijuana industry. Chapter 39 addresses plant processing or extractions facilities and the use, storage, transfilling, and handling of hazardous materials and applies to both new and existing buildings or facilities. Section 3901.2 requires that existing buildings and facilities used for plant processing to comply with Chapter 39. Inspections in processing and extraction facilities should begin with a review of the certificate of occupancy issued by the local building department. These facilities must also have a license issued by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission or the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

According to OFC Section 3904.2.2.1, systems or equipment used for oil extraction must be approved for their intended purpose and accompanied by a technical report. The report should include the 14 items listed in Section 3904.2.2.2. Equipment may also be listed in accordance with UL 1389. Before operating the extraction equipment, the fire code official may require an engineer or other approved professional to inspect the site and equipment and provide a report. This report will confirm that the installed equipment and facility comply with the requirements of Chapter 39.

Extraction processes using flammable gases a gas detection system must be installed per OFC Section 916. Installation requires a building permit and shall be designed for use with the gases being detected. OFC 916.9 Signage requires signs to be placed adjacent to alarm signaling devices identifying the nature of the signals and actions to take. Staff training reports should be available and reviewed to ensure the training required by OFC Section 403.14 are completed for personnel. Individuals assigned to monitor the extraction process should have training in the extraction process, transfer of solvents, and all emergency procedures. Some manufacturers also require that operators complete training from the manufacturer.



One of the major hazards associated with these facilities is the use, storage, and transfilling, and handling of hazardous materials. This includes flammable and combustible materials used for the extraction process, cleaning, and sanitation. These materials should be properly stored. OFC Section 5003.2 includes the requirements for containers, piping, tubing, valves, and fittings. Additional requirements are also in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code Section 414.7.

**Common inspection findings:**

- Ensure equipment, technical report, and field inspection report reflect existing conditions (OFC 3904.2.2)
- Review staff training reports (OFC 403.14)
- Review and verify flammable and combustible material storage, dispensing, use and handling are in accordance with the Oregon Fire Code (OFC 3903.5)
- Quantities
- Signage (NFPA 704, No Smoking, Warnings...)
- Inventory
- Control areas
- Gas detection systems (where required) installed and maintained (OFC 3905.1)
- Emergency shutoff in place where required (OFC 3905.2)
- Carbon dioxide enrichment systems (where installed) (OFC 5307.4)
- SDSs are on site and available (OFC 3905.4)
- No changes made to the equipment and extraction medium (OFC 3906.2)



# NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK CHILI COOK-OFF AND SAFETY FAIR



Mark your calendars! The Oregon Burn Center, a Oregon Life Safety Team partner, is kicking off National Burn Awareness Week (February 2–10, 2025) with an exciting Chili Cook-Off and Safety Fair. The event will take place on **Sunday, February 2, 2025**, at the Oregon Expo Center.

This fun-filled event is designed to raise awareness about burn prevention and fire safety while bringing the community together for some friendly competition and delicious chili. Attendees can enjoy sampling the competing chili recipes while exploring interactive educational booths, including a prevention education table hosted by our own Laura Chaffey and Paula Shelly.

The Oregon Burn Center is committed to educating the public on burn prevention and promoting fire safety, and this event is a fantastic opportunity to support their important mission. Whether you're a chili enthusiast, a fire safety advocate, or just looking for a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon, we encourage you to stop by and join the fun.







## FROM THE INTERNET

In December, Ontario firefighters took part in a flammable liquids and gas training. This training is crucial for ensuring safety in the workplace and preventing accidents. Understanding how to properly handle, store, and respond to these hazardous materials can save lives and reduce risks. [Check out their post here.](#)

## SEARCH IS ON!

Hubbard firefighters tested their ability to search in low visibility conditions. Leading up to their December burn to learn they practiced vent-enter search. It is a tactical firefighting technique used during structure fires to quickly search for and rescue trapped occupants in specific areas of a building.

Vent-enter search is often used when it's unsafe or impractical to enter through the main doors of a structure. Firefighters typically close the door to the room they are searching to control fire spread and maintain survivable conditions for victims.



# ANALYTICS & INTELLIGENCE Reporting Reminders

## Has there been a fire related death or serious injury?

Please remember to submit a Fire Casualty Report Form (ORS 476.210). The form can be found at: [Fire Casualty Report Form](#)

*\*Note: the form must be completed by the primary responding fire agency and in addition to the NFIRS Fire Incident Report.*

## Has there been a change in your agency's contact information or leadership?

If so, please remember to complete the appropriate contact update form found here: [Fire Agency Contact Update Forms](#)

## Have a NFIRS question? Need Coding Help? Struggling with Elite?

If you need help related to incident reporting or the state repository, please reach out to the Fire Incident Reporting System Program Coordinator Michelle Vold.  
(503-586-6568 | [michelle.vold@osfm.oregon.gov](mailto:michelle.vold@osfm.oregon.gov))



# CONTACT US

Have a story idea or something you would like to know more about?

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